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CAREX CHORDORRHIZA **CREEPING SEDGE**

Creeping Sedge is a grass-like perennial with 1-several stems that are 10-30 cm tall and arising from creeping rhizomes. Old stems become elongate and prostrate. Fertile stems have 1-3 leaves, 1-5 cm long, at the base. Non-flowering stems have longer leaves. Flowers are borne in 3-8 small spikes at the stem tips. Each spike has male flowers above and 1-5 perigynia below. The many-nerved perigynia are egg-shaped and 2.5-3.5 mm long. The scales are broadly egg-shaped and the same length as the perigynia that they subtend. Each perigynium has 2 stigmas, and a lens-shaped achene. Fruit matures in July.

CAREX CHORDORRHIZA is among the few sedge species of peatland habitat with a small head. *C. SIMULATA* resembles it but has smaller perigynia with more than 5 per spike. A hand lens and technical key are needed for positive identification.